ALLIANCE FOR COASTAL TECHNOLOGIES

"A NOAA funded partnership of research institutions, state and regional resource managers, and private sector companies interested in developing and applying sensor technologies for monitoring coastal environments."

ACT IS A NATIONAL PARTNERSHIP

ORGANIZATION:

- Stems from recommendations of academics, resource managers, and private sector companies (2000 Workshop, Solomons, MD).
- Funded by NOAA's Coastal Service Center, Charleston, SC.
- Made up of a Headquarters office, Partner institutions, a Stakeholders Council, and a broad group of Alliance Members.

SERVICES:

- An unbiased, third-party "testbed" for evaluating new and developing coastal sensors and sensor platforms.
- A comprehensive coastal technology specification/performance data and information clearinghouse.
- A forum for capacity building through a series of annual workshops and seminars.

Partners:

- Include research institutions with sensor technology expertise that represent a broad range of environmental conditions.
- Developing ACT foci and themes.
- Prioritizing technologies to be tested and conducting specific technology evaluations.
- Identifying and organizing regional outreach activities.
- Serving as information conduits to the broader coastal science and management communities.

Stakeholders:

- Up to 21 members recruited from private sector companies and environmental management agencies representing geographic and sector diversity.
- Prioritizing technologies to be evaluated and participating in planning and decision making to help insure that ACT focuses on service-oriented activities.
- Fostering the interactive flow of ideas and information between the various users and disciplines critical to the success of ACT.

Alliance Members:

- A collaboration of institutions, companies, and organizations involved in the development and/or use of coastal sensor technologies.
- Engaged through both the Stakeholders Council and the regional ACT Partners.
- Providing advice, kept abreast of ACT activities, and aiding the development of workshop themes.
- Fostering the interactive flow of ideas and information between the various users and the disciplines critical to the success of ACT.

MBARI, MUSE 2000

JOIN ACT TODAY!

Ocean observing efforts benefit from community participation

www.act-us.info

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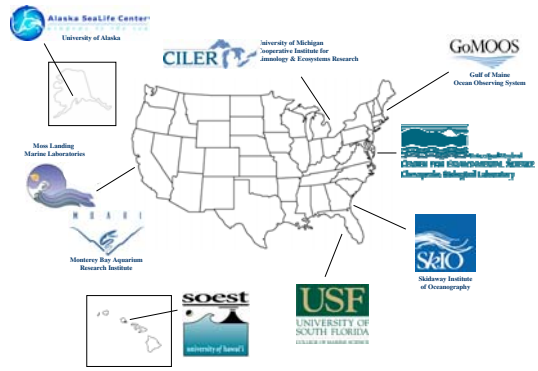
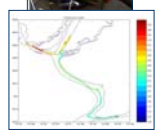


ACT – Pacific Coast Monitoring and test site at MLML

ACT FOSTERS TECHNOLOGY CAPACITY BUILDING:

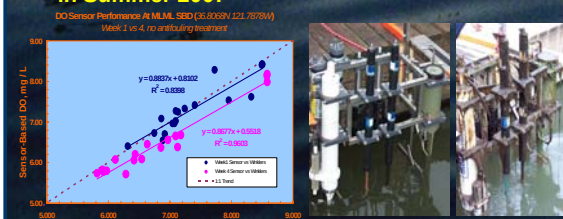
- ***Workshops*** focus on specific sensor technologies for use in coastal environments.
- ***Seminars*** involve education programs and training for researchers and coastal managers to foster awareness of the value of marine observation.



A portable UDAS for surface WQ mapping designed at MLML

ACT's TECHNOLOGY PERFORMANCE VERIFICATION AND DEMONSTRATION PROGRAM

- Instrument validation is necessary so that effective existing technologies are recognized and promising new technologies can be made available to support coastal science, management, and IOOS).
- Established guidelines for demonstration and verification testing that include Customer Needs and Use Assessments, auditable QA/QC procedures, and information transfer strategies. Specific Technology Workshops are used to identify critical evaluation parameters.
- Conducted a technology verification system trial winter 2002-2003.
- Completed 3 Technology Verifications to date:
  - *In Situ Dissolved Oxygen Sensors (2004)*
  - *In Situ Chlorophyll Fluorometers (2005)*
  - *In Situ Turbidity Sensors (ongoing)*
- Reports summarizing laboratory and field performance characteristics of each instrument available at: *www.act-us.info/evaluation_reports.php.*
- Sponsoring Technology Demonstration & Training Workshop for *In Situ Nutrient Sensors* in Summer 2007

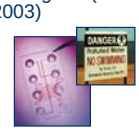


ACT HAS SPONSORED 30 TECHNOLOGY WORKSHOPS SINCE 2002

All reports available at: *www.act-us.info/workshops_reports.php*

Topics span the diversity of technologies employed in WQ and Ocean Observing Activities

- *Biosensors for Harmful Algal Blooms* (CBL, March 2002)
- *Developing Acoustic Methods for Surveying Groundfish* (GoMOOS, February 2003)
- *In Situ Nutrient Sensors* (SkIO, March 2003)
- *Data Telemetry from Remote Coastal Sensors and Platforms* (USF, April 2003)
- *Rapid Identification of Coastal Pathogens* (MLML/MBARI, May 2003)
- *Biofouling Prevention Technologies* (CBL, November 2003)
- *Dissolved Oxygen Sensors* (SkIO, January 2004)
- *Surface Current Radar* (USF, March 2004)
- *Nano-Technology Systems for Water Quality* (CILER, April 2004)
- *Optical Particle Counters* (SOEST, April 2004)
- *Management Applications for AUVs and Gliders* (GoMOOS, April 2004)
- *Acoustic Remote Sensing Technologies for Habitat and Resource Assessment* (MLML/MBARI, May 2004)



ACT PROVIDES A WEB-BASED CLEARINGHOUSE FOR MONITORING TECHNOLOGY & PERFORMANCE DATA

- Information on ACT mission, structure, and background.
- A **searchable technology information database**
- Information on ACT evaluation process and technology evaluation results.
- Updates on upcoming, and reports on past, workshops and seminars.